

REMARKS

This application has been carefully reviewed in light of the Office Action dated February 28, 2008. Claims 1, 2, 4, 7, 9 to 12, 14, 15, 17 to 19, 21, 22, and 25 to 27 are pending in the application, of which Claims 1, 2, 21, 22 and 25 to 27 are independent. Reconsideration and further examination are respectfully requested.

The Examiner withdrew the indication of allowable subject matter, and entered a new rejection based on art. Thus, Claims 1 to 12, 14 to 19, 21, 22, 25 and 26 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) over U.S. Patent No. 6,809,831 (Minari). Reconsideration and withdrawal of this rejection are respectfully requested.

Claims 1, 21 and 25

Turning to specific claim language, amended independent Claim 1 is directed to an information processing method of recording or accumulating job log information on a job issued from an information processing apparatus connectable to an image forming apparatus. The method includes an acquisition step of acquiring the job log information from the information processing apparatus or the image forming apparatus; a driver information acquisition step of acquiring driver information from the job log information acquired in the acquisition step, in which the driver information identifies a driver which generates the issued job; a determination step of determining whether to record or accumulate the job log information acquired in the acquisition step, in accordance with the driver information acquired in the driver information acquisition step; and a recording/accumulation step of recording or accumulating the job log information determined in the determination step to be recorded or accumulated. In the recording/accumulation step, job log information determined in the determination step to be

accumulated is extracted and accumulated from pieces of acquired job log information, and grasp of the number of output pages or charging of an output job is performed.

Claims 21 and 25 are directed to a server and a computer-readable medium, respectively, substantially in accordance with the method of Claim 1.

Applicant respectfully submits that Minari neither discloses nor suggests all of the features of Claims 1, 21 and 25. Specifically, Minari fails to disclose or suggest at least a driver information acquisition step of acquiring driver information from the job log information acquired in an acquisition step, in which the driver information identifies a driver which generates the issued job, and a determination step of determining whether to record or accumulate the job log information acquired in the acquisition step, in accordance with the driver information acquired in the driver information acquisition step.

In contrast to the present invention, Minari discloses a print control system in which a print job object is transferred from a host computer 101 to a printer 107. In response, the printer 107 performs printing processing based on the print job object, and the result of the processing (that is, whether the processing was successful or not) is written in the print job object. The print job object is then sent in reply to the host computer 101. Alternatively, the printer 107 transfers the print job object to another printer when the print job object is not for the printer 107 (Please see Minari, Fig. 9).

However, Minari neither discloses nor suggests acquiring driver information from job log information, in which the driver information identifies a driver which generates the issued job, and determining whether to record or accumulate the job log information, in accordance with the driver information.

In light of these deficiencies in Minari, Applicant submits that Claims 1, 21 and 25 are now in condition for allowance and respectfully requests same.

Claims 2, 22 and 26

Amended independent Claim 2 is directed to an information processing method of recording or accumulating job log information on a job issued from an information processing apparatus connectable to an image forming apparatus. The method comprises an acquisition step of acquiring the job log information from the information processing apparatus or the image forming apparatus; a port information acquisition step of acquiring port information from the job log information acquired in the acquisition step; a determination step of determining whether to record or accumulate the job log information acquired in the acquisition step, in accordance with the port information acquired in the port information acquisition step; and a recording/accumulation step of recording or accumulating the job log information determined in the determination step to be recorded or accumulated, wherein, in the recording/accumulation step, job log information determined in the determination step to be accumulated is extracted and accumulated from pieces of acquired job log information, and grasp of the number of output pages or charging of an output job is performed.

Claims 22 and 26 are directed to a server and a computer-readable medium, respectively, substantially in accordance with the method of Claim 2.

Applicant respectfully submits that Minari neither discloses nor suggests all of the features of Claims 2, 22 and 26. Specifically, Minari fails to disclose or suggest at least a port information acquisition step of acquiring port information from the job log information acquired in the acquisition step, and a determination step of determining whether to record or accumulate

the job log information acquired in the acquisition step, in accordance with the port information acquired in the port information acquisition step.

As discussed above, Minari discloses a print control system in which a print job object is transferred from a host computer and the printer performs printing processing based on the print job object. The result of the processing is written in the print job object and the print job object is then sent in reply to the host computer. Alternatively, the printer transfers the print job object to another printer when the print job object is not for the printer.

However, Minari neither discloses nor suggests acquiring port information from the job log information, and determining whether to record or accumulate the job log information in accordance with the port information.

In light of these deficiencies in Minari, Applicant submits that Claims 2, 22 and 26 are now in condition for allowance and respectfully requests same.

Claim 27

Claim 27 is directed to an information processing method of recording or accumulating job log information on a job issued from an information processing apparatus connectable to an image forming apparatus. The method comprises an acquisition step of acquiring the job log information from the information processing apparatus or the image forming apparatus; an output destination determination step of determining whether the output destination of the job corresponding to the job log information is the information processing apparatus or the image forming apparatus; a determination step of determining whether to record or accumulate the job log information acquired in the acquisition step, in accordance with the result of determination in the output destination determination step; and a

recording/accumulation step of recording or accumulating the job log information determined in the determination step to be recorded or accumulated, wherein, in the recording/accumulation step, job log information determined in the determination step to be accumulated is extracted and accumulated from pieces of acquired job log information, and grasp of the number of output pages or charging of an output job is performed.

As discussed above, Minari discloses a print control system in which a print job object is transferred from a host computer and the printer performs printing processing based on the print job object. The result of the processing is written in the print job object and the print job object is then sent in reply to the host computer. Alternatively, the printer transfers the print job object to another printer when the print job object is not for the printer.

However, Minari neither discloses nor suggests an output destination determination step of determining whether the output destination of the job corresponding to the job log information is the information processing apparatus or the image forming apparatus and a determination step of determining whether to record or accumulate the job log information acquired in the acquisition step, in accordance with the result of determination in the output destination determination step, as featured in Claim 27.

In light of these deficiencies in Minari, Applicant submits that Claim 27 is now in condition for allowance and respectfully requests same.

The other pending claims in this application are each dependent from the independent claims discussed above and are therefore believed allowable for at least the same reasons.

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, the entire application is believed to be in condition for allowance, and such action is respectfully requested at the Examiner's earliest convenience.

CONCLUSION

Finally, the previous claim count totaled 22 (26 paid-for), with 6 independent claims (7 paid-for). The present amendment brings the total claim count to 18, with 7 independent claims. Accordingly, no claim fees are believed due; however, should it be determined that additional claim fees are required, the Director is hereby authorized to charge such fees to Deposit Account 06-1205.

Applicant's undersigned attorney may be reached in our Costa Mesa, CA office at (714) 540-8700. All correspondence should continue to be directed to our below-listed address.

Respectfully submitted,

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